



2015 Fact Sheet

Superintendent	Don Striker			
Established	February 26, 1917 (as Mount McKinley National Park) December 2, 1980 (increased in size and name changed to Denali National Park and Preserve) <i>Denali is the Koyukon Athabaskan name for Mount McKinley, and means “The High One.” Although McKinley is the mountain’s official name, “Denali” is the name favored by most Alaskans.</i> Park was designated as an International Biosphere Reserve in 1976.			
Size	Park	4,740,911.16 acres	7,407.7 sq. miles	1,917,808 hectares
	Preserve	<u>1,334,117.80 acres</u>	<u>2,084.5 sq. miles</u>	<u>539,896 hectares</u>
		6,075,028.96 acres	9,492.2 sq. miles	2,457,704 hectares
			(24,585 sq. kilometers)	
	(For comparison: State of New Hampshire = 9,351 sq. miles and Massachusetts = 10,555 sq. miles)			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wilderness designation (most of original Mount McKinley National Park): 2,146,270 acres; 3,353.6 sq. miles; 8,685.6 sq. kilometers; 868,564 hectaresPerimeter (boundary, including new park and preserve): 606 miles or 975 kilometers			
Visitation	2014: 531,315 visits 2013: 530,921 visits (calculated using new multiplier to better reflect visitation) 2012: 388,433 visitors			
Base Budget	\$13,527,200			
NPS Staffing	Permanent	91		
	Term	19		
	Seasonal	180 (average number during peak season)		
	Volunteers (2014)	523 (contributed 69,760 hours of work)		
Campgrounds	RVs and/or tents:	3 campgrounds (232 sites)		
	Tents only:	3 campgrounds (42 sites)		
Roads and Trails	Length of Denali Park Road:	92.0 miles	148.0 kilometers	
	Paved section:	14.8 miles	23.8 kilometers	
	Constructed trails:	35.5 miles	57.1 kilometers	
Landmarks and Elevations		<u>Elevations above sea level</u>		
	Denali Visitor Center	1,746 feet	532 meters	
	Polychrome Overlook	3,700	1127.7	
	Highway Pass (highest point on road)	3,980	1213	
	Eielson Visitor Center	3,733	1138	
	Wonder Lake Campground	2,055	626.3	
	Mt. Foraker	17,400	5303.5	
	Mt. McKinley--South Peak (highest point in North America)	20,320	6193.5	
	-- North Peak	19,470	5934	
	Lowest point (Yentna River at boundary)	223	68	
Wildlife Species	Amphibians	1 (wood frog)		
	Mammals	39		
	Birds	172 species recorded; 123 documented as breeding and 16 recorded as accidental		
	Fish	14 (including 3 salmon species)		
	Reptiles	0		

Flora	<p>Vascular plants: 758 species documented</p> <p>Tree species: 8</p> <p>Approximately 380 species of mosses, 119 of liverworts, and 442 species of lichens currently documented in recent publications.</p> <p><i>Erioderma pedicellatum</i>, a lichen discovered in 2007, was previously known only from limited areas in Scandinavia and southeastern Canada. It is currently classified as Critically Endangered.</p>
Paleontology	<p>Thousands of trace fossils (tracks, footprints, or body prints) have been found since the first discovery of dinosaur prints in 2005, all dating from 65-72 million years ago. They include theropods, hadrosaurs, ceratopsians, and pterosaurs, as well as bird tracks, fish traces, crayfish burrows, and insect trackways.</p> <p><i>Myriospirifer breasei</i>, a species of extinct marine brachiopod that has been found only in Denali, is named after Phil Brease, park geologist from 1986 until his untimely death in May 2010.</p>
Lakes and Streams	<p>Largest is Chilchukabena Lake: 2.6 miles long, 2 miles wide, 2056 acres</p> <p>Wonder Lake: 2.7 miles long, 1/2 mile wide, 649 acres, 280 feet maximum depth</p> <p>Approximately 12,206 lakes and ponds in the park and preserve; 18,679 miles of streams</p>
Glaciers	<p>15% of park's land area is covered with glaciers (approx. 1,422 sq. miles). Loss of 8% from 1950 - 2010.</p> <p>Largest glacier: Kahiltna Glacier on the south side of Alaska Range (45 miles or 72.4 km long)</p> <p>Largest glacier on north side of Alaska Range: Muldrow Glacier (34 miles or 54.7 km long)</p> <p>Deepest measured glacier: Ruth Glacier, 3805 feet or 1160 meters</p>
Earthquakes	<p>Average number per year within park boundaries: about 3,000</p> <p>Depth: 60% between 0-20 km – deepest are at about 200 km</p> <p>Largest recent earthquake is magnitude 5.2 (January 23, 2011). Earthquakes as small as magnitude 0.5 are routinely detected.</p> <p>The 7.9 quake on November 3, 2002 was largest recorded interior Alaska earthquake.</p> <p>Most events occur within the Kantishna seismic cluster, in the foothills north of Denali.</p>
Weather	<p>Average annual precipitation = 15 inches / 381mm (park headquarters)</p> <p>Wettest months are July, August, and June (in that order)</p> <p>Average annual snowfall = 80 inches / 202 cm (park headquarters)</p> <p>Coldest temperature recorded at headquarters: -54° F / -48°C, February 5, 1999</p> <p>Coldest year on record: 1956</p> <p>Highest temperature recorded at headquarters: 91° F / 33°C, June 22, 1991</p> <p>Warmest year on record: 1926</p> <p>Average January temperature: 2.0°F / -17°C</p> <p>Average July temperature: 55°F / 13°C</p> <p>Shortest day (December 21): 4 hours, 21 minutes of daylight</p> <p>Longest day (June 21): 20 hours, 49 minutes of daylight</p> <p>Number of years in cooperation with the National Weather Service: 90</p>
Sled Dog Kennels	<p>Number of dogs: 30 adults and 1 puppy (11 females and 20 males)</p> <p>Miles patrolled by sled per winter (average): 3,000</p> <p>Kennels building constructed in 1929; Sled dog demonstrations inaugurated in 1939</p> <p>2014 dog demonstration attendees: 50,934</p>
Mt. McKinley Mountaineering Statistics (2014)	<p>Number of climbers: 1,204 (record was 1,340 in 2005)</p> <p>Number of climbers who reached top or “summit”: 429</p> <p>Summit percentage: 36% (Average summit percentage: 52%)</p> <p>Rescues: 9</p> <p>Fatalities: 1 (total number of fatalities since 1932: 122)</p>
Notable Ascents	<p>First summit of South Peak (true summit): June 7, 1913; W. Harper, H. Karstens, H. Stuck, R. Tatum</p> <p>First summit of North Peak: April 3, 1910; Pete Anderson, Billy Taylor</p> <p>First woman to summit: June 6, 1947; Barbara Polk Washburn</p> <p>First solo ascent: August 26, 1970; Naomi Uemura</p> <p>First winter ascent: February 28, 1967; Dave Johnston, Art Davidson, Ray Genet</p> <p>First solo winter ascent: February 12, 1984; Naomi Uemura (died on descent)</p> <p>First successful winter solo ascent completed: March 7, 1988; Vern Tejas</p> <p>Oldest person to summit: June 28, 2013; Tom Choate, 78 years old</p> <p>Youngest person to summit: June 17, 2001; Galen Johnston, 11 years old</p>